

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 FAA-00 /037 W
----- 105395 /46

R 231152Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9018

UNCLAS LONDON 20672

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, UK
SUBJECT: CIVAIR: CARGO RATES

REF: LONDON 20634

1. AFTER REFTEL SENT, SEABOARD REP IN LONDON CALLED TO INFORM US THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT UK GOVERNMENT WILL ISSUE ORDER REQUIRING CARRIERS TO USE CONTRACT AND COMMODITY CARGO RATES (REFTEL) EX UK FROM JANUARY 10. THIS RUMOR SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRMED TO US BY BONNEY OF CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY. HE SAID ORDER, WHICH HE UNNDERSTOOD WAS ISSUED LATE DEC. 22, WILL BE ISSUED ONLY TO BA FOR IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVENESS; OTHER CARRIERS WILL BE FREE TO MATCH BA RATES IF THEY WISH TO. BONNEY SAID HE WILL SEND US COPY OF UK ORDER BUT PROBABLY NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL AFTER CHRISTMAS. BA IS EXPECTED TO FILE GOVERNMENT ORDERED RATES WITH CAB SOON.

2. OTHER INTERESTING NEWS FROM SEABOARD IS THAT CONTRARY TO STATEMENT MADE BY ROGERS DURING COURSE OF DEC. 7-15 MEETINGS, REPEATED IN LETTER TRANSMITTED REFTEL. THAT BA HAD BEEN APPLYING NEW CONTRACT AND COMMODITY RATES FOUND NOT TO BE TRUE. WE DISCUSSED THIS ALSO WITH BONNEY WHO TOLD US ROGERS HAD MISUNDERSTOOD THE ACTUAL SITUATION WHE HE SAID AT DEC. 7-15 MEETINGS AND IN LETTER (REFTEL) THAT
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BA WAS ALREADY APPLYING NEW RATES. BONNEY SAID BA HAD OFFERED COMMODITY RATES FOR USE IN NOVEMBER WHEN, BECAUSE OF DELAY IN RECEIVING CAB NOTICE THAT FILING AT THAT TIME HAD NOT BEEN ACCEPTED, BA THOUGHT IT WAS FREE TO PROCEED. /WHEN CAB NOTICE RECEIVED IN NOVEMBER, BA STOPPED EFFORTS TO USE COMMODITY RATES. ON OTHER HAND, BA HAS NEVER

TRIED TO INSTITUTE CONTRACT RATES ALTHOUGH IT HAS BEEN
PROMOTING THEM AND TRYING TO LINE UP POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS
SUBJECT TO SUBSEQUENT GOVERNMENT APPROVAL.

3. COMMENT: UK ACTION TO ISSUE GOVERNMENT ORDER REQUIR-
ING THE USE OF CONTRACT AND COMMODITY CARGO RATES BY BA
NO DOUBT BEING TAKEN TO TAKE ISSUE OUT OF BRITISH AIRWAYS
AND CAB CHANNEL AND RAISE IT TO LEVEL OF GOVERNMENTAL
CONFRONTATION ON ASSUMPTION THAT THIS WILL PRODUCE MORE
RAPID RESOLUTION OF ISSUE WITH /US. IMMEDIATE DATE OF
EFFECTIVENESS FOR ORDER WOULD SEEM TO BE APPROPRIATE
TIMING SO THAT ISSUE WILL BE BEFORE US AND UK DELEGATIONS
TO JAN. 17 RENEGOTIATION MEETINGS.

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIR CARGO, CIVIL AVIATION, POLICIES, AIR FARES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LONDON20672
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760471-0201
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761217/aaaaaopy.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LONDON 20634
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <14 DEC 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR: CARGO RATES
TAGS: EAIR, UK, US, SEABOARD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006